

ELLSWORTH KELLY PLANT DRAWINGS

MATTHEW MARKS GALLERY



The drawings from plant life seem to be a bridge to the way of seeing that brought about the paintings in 1949 that are the basis for all my later work.

The plant drawings from that time until now have always been linear. They are exact observations of the form of the leaf or flower or fruit seen. Nothing is changed or added: no shading, no surface marking. They are not an approximation of the thing seen, nor are they a personal expression or an abstraction. They are an impersonal observation of the form.

—Ellsworth Kelly, 1969





Kelly













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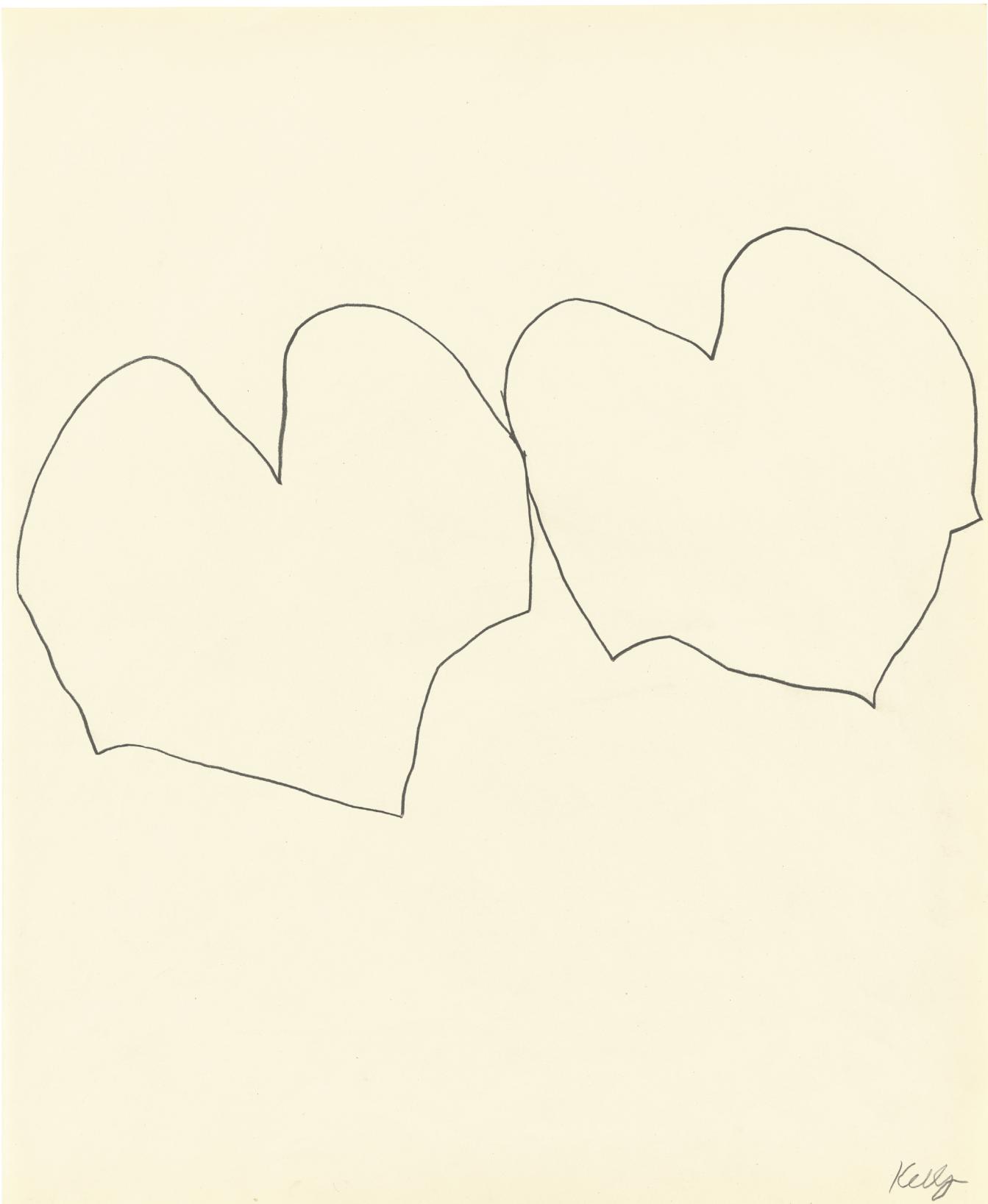






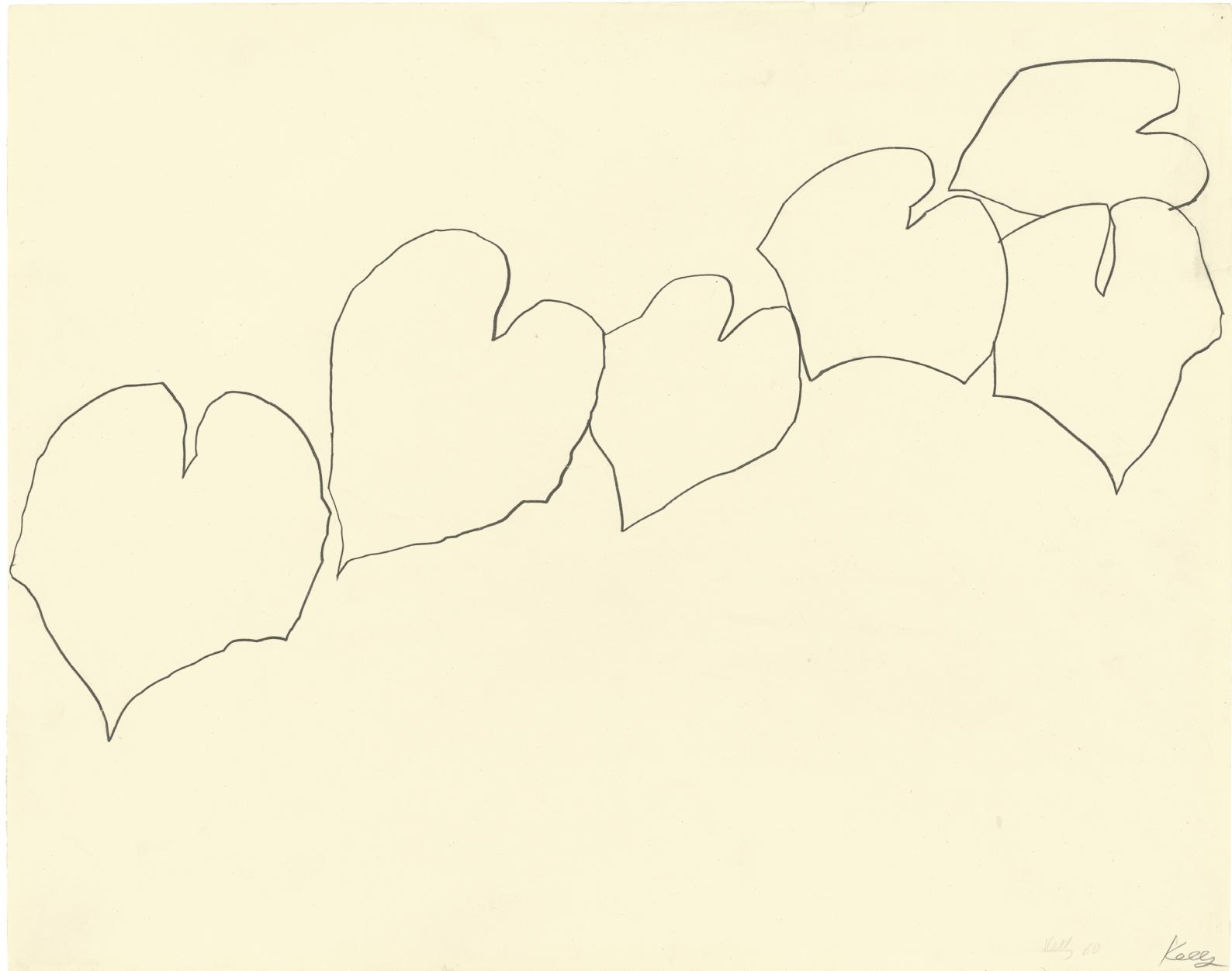






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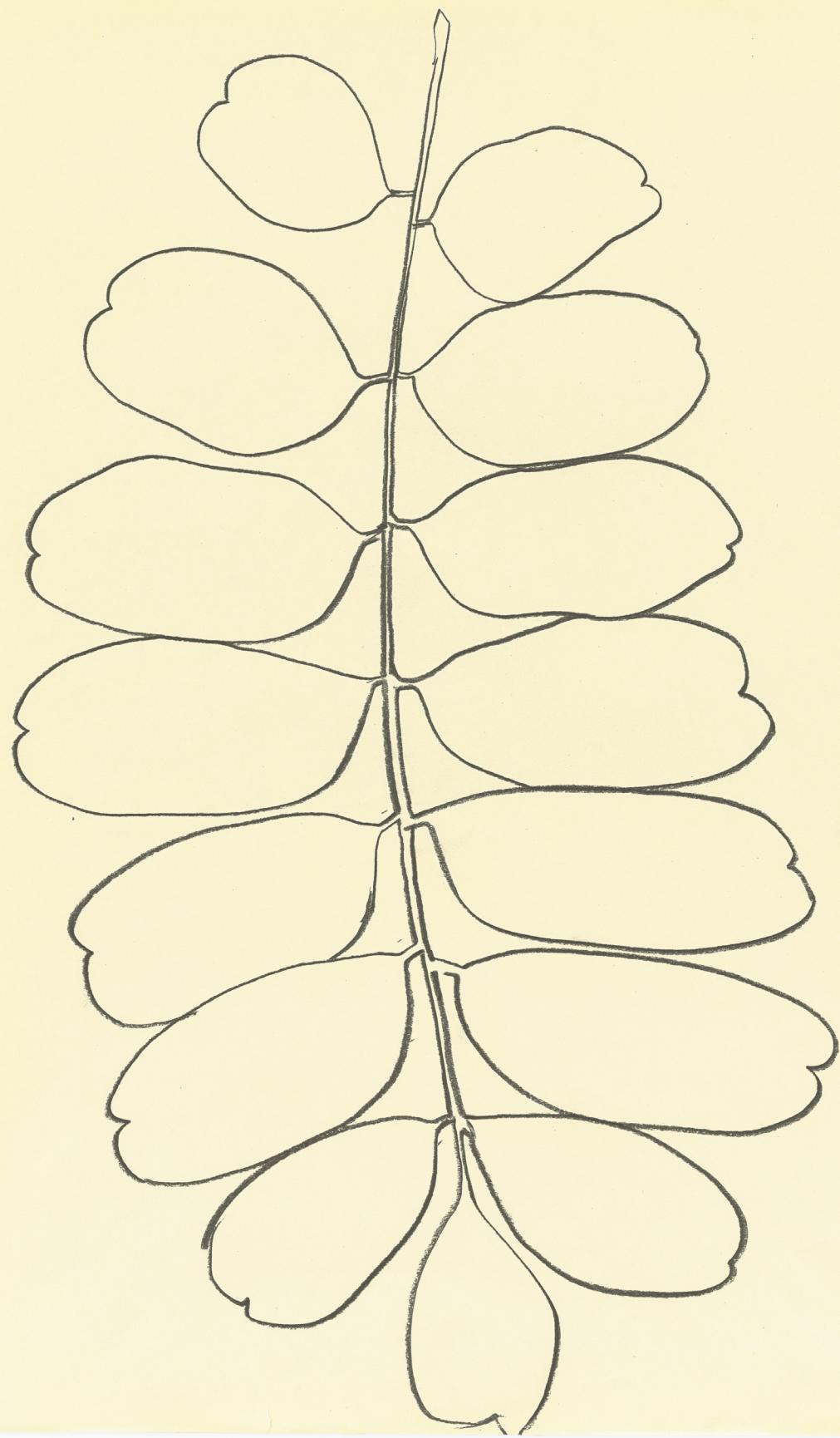


protea flower Kelly



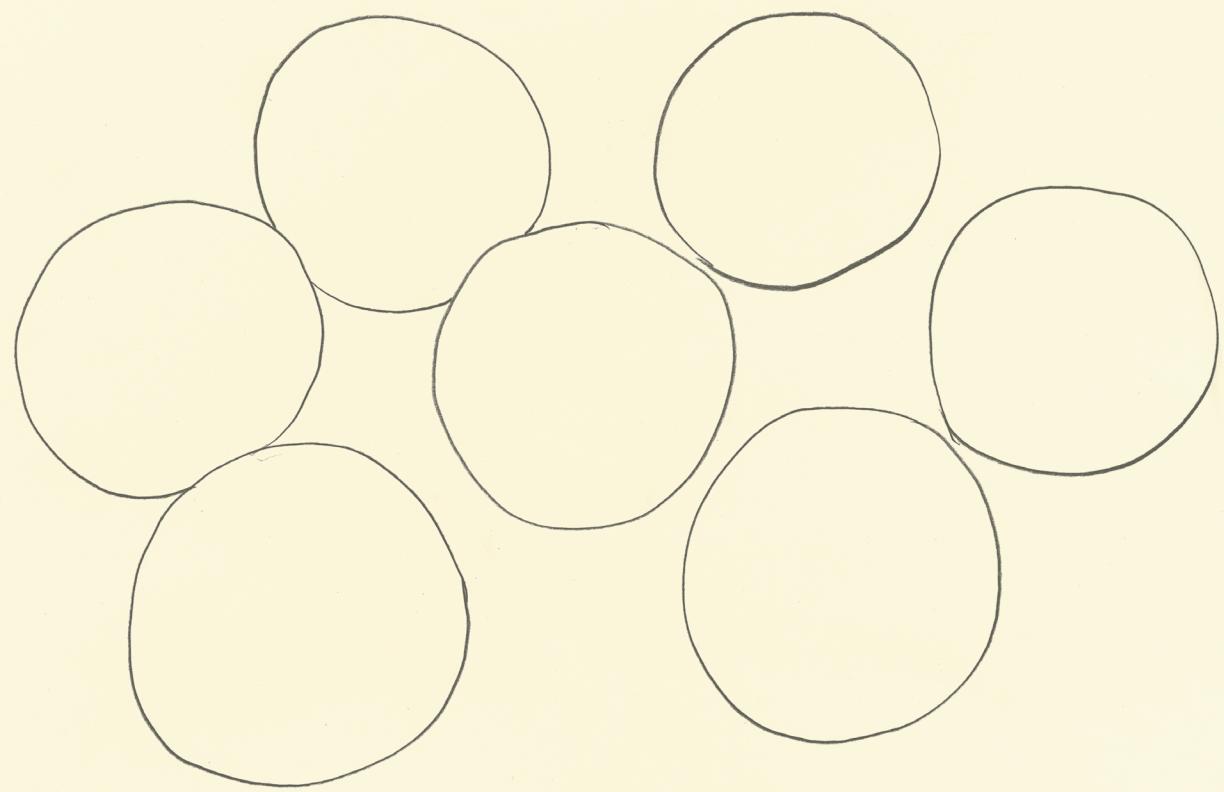






Kelly '65

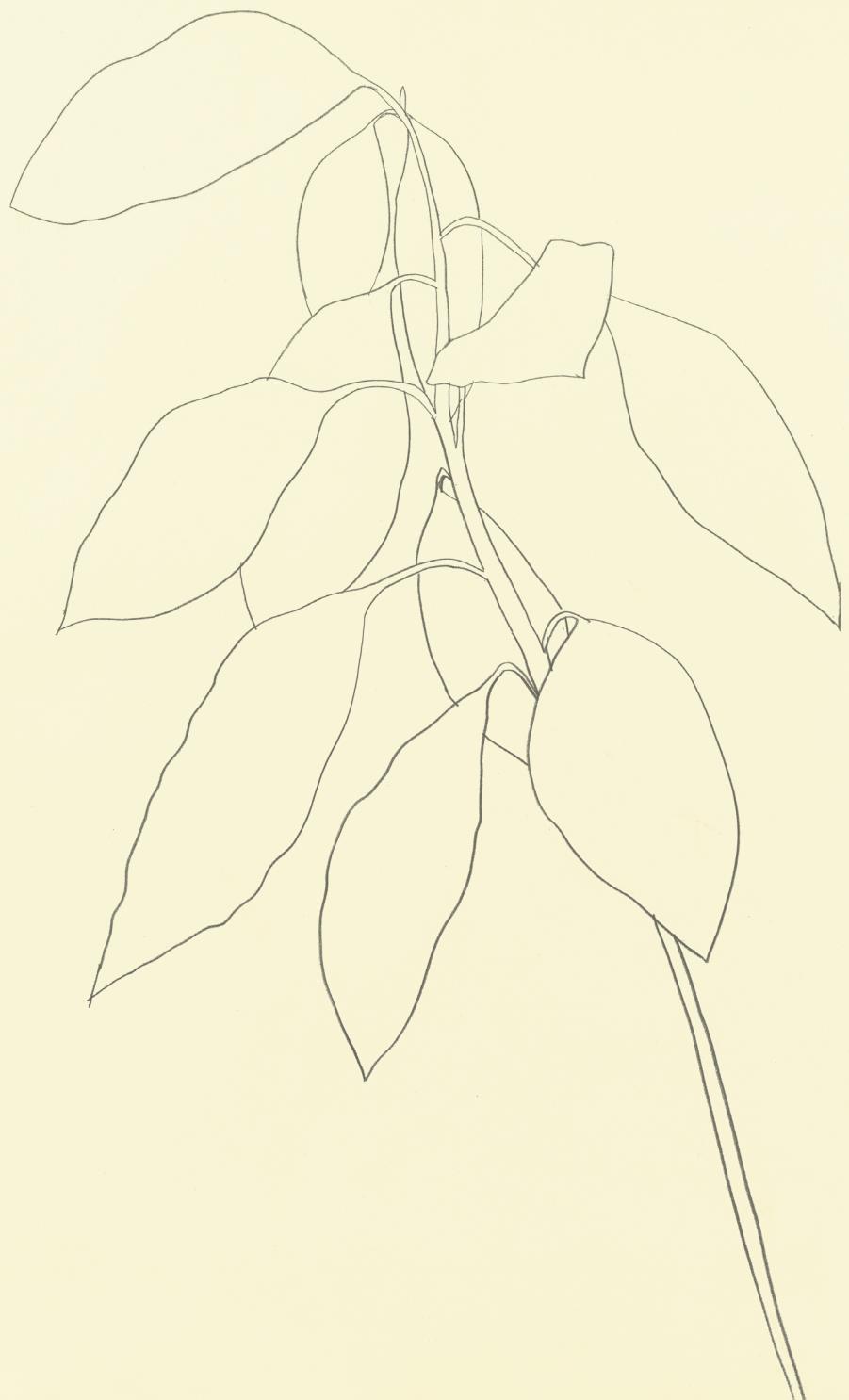




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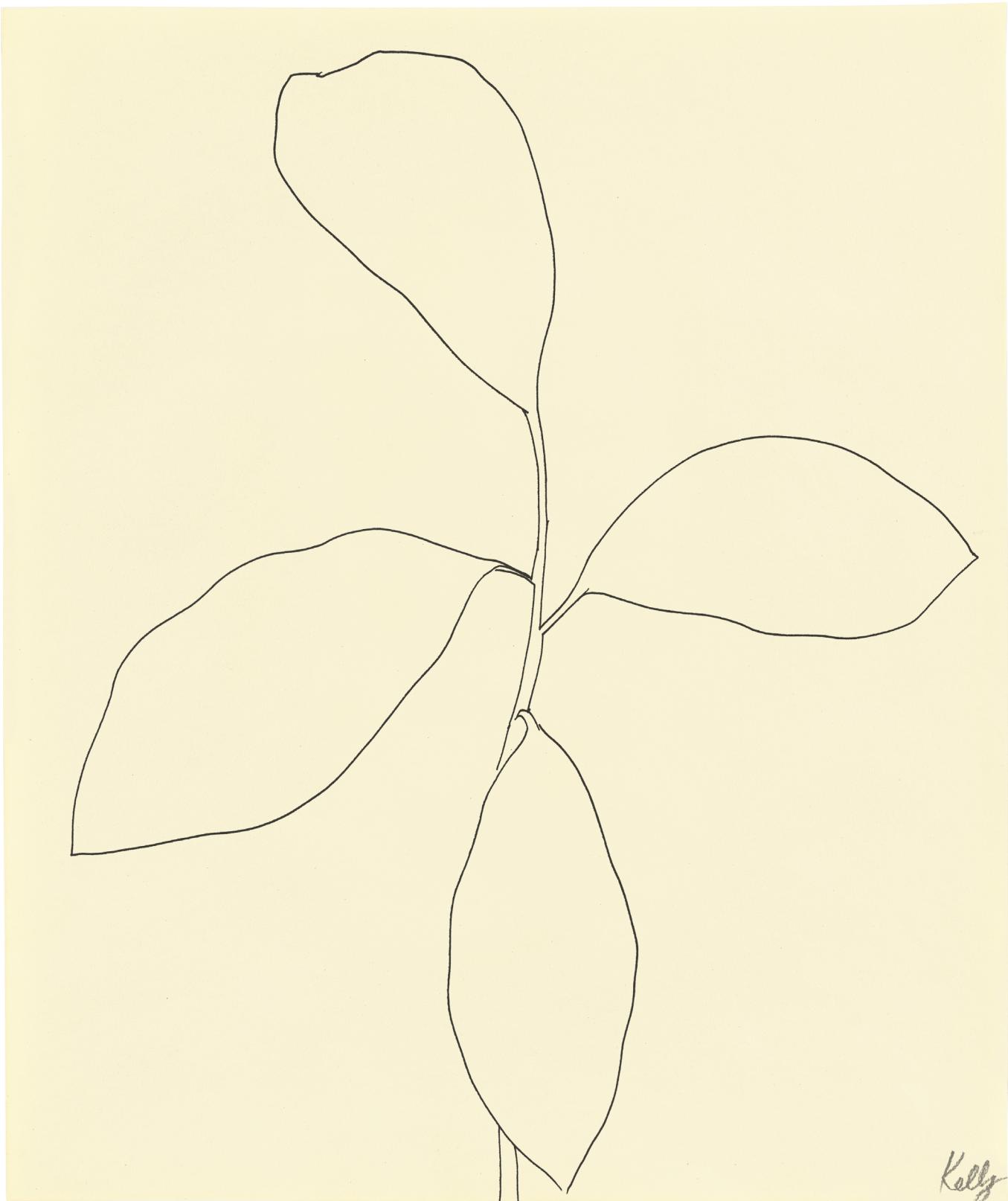
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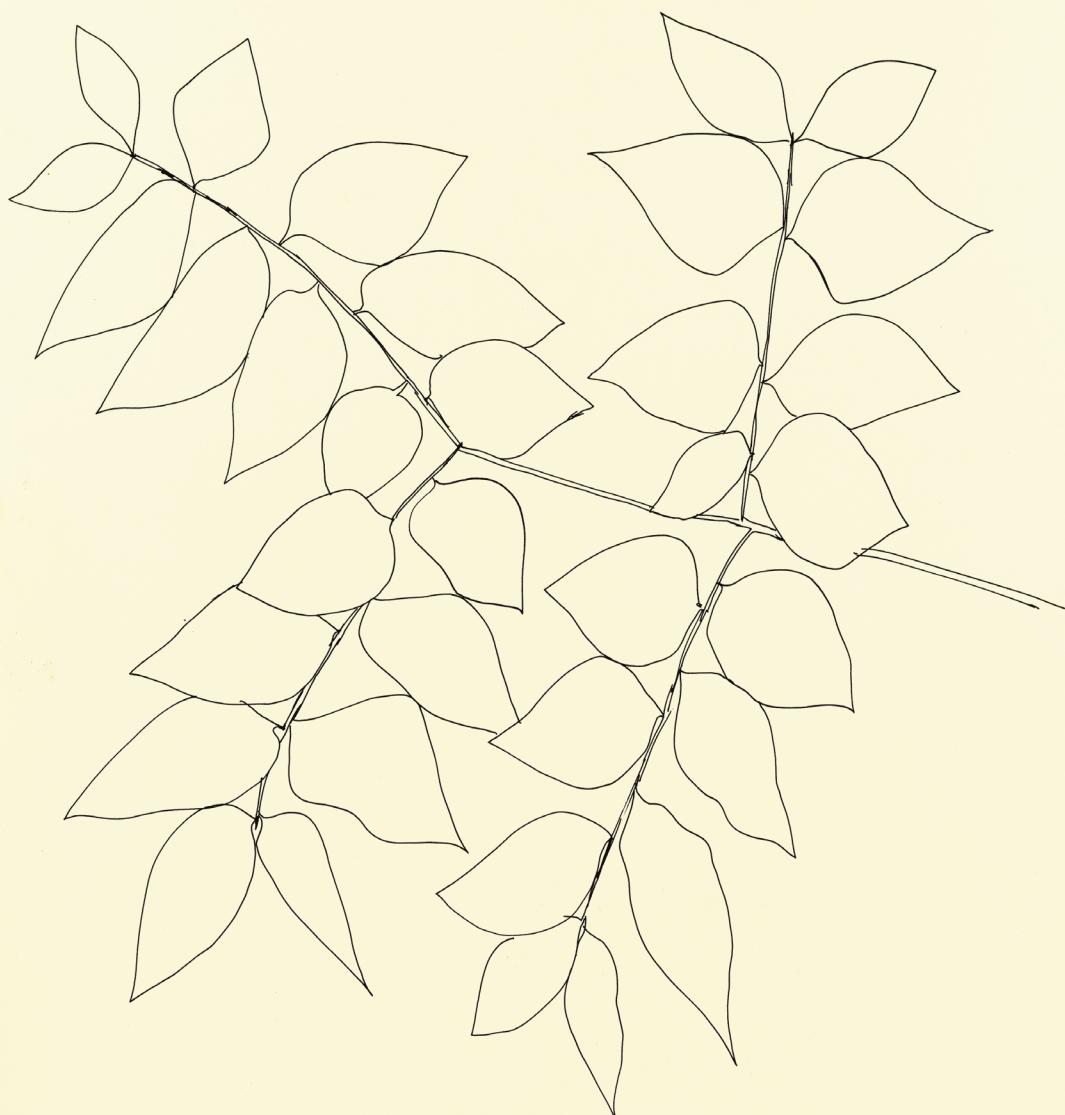


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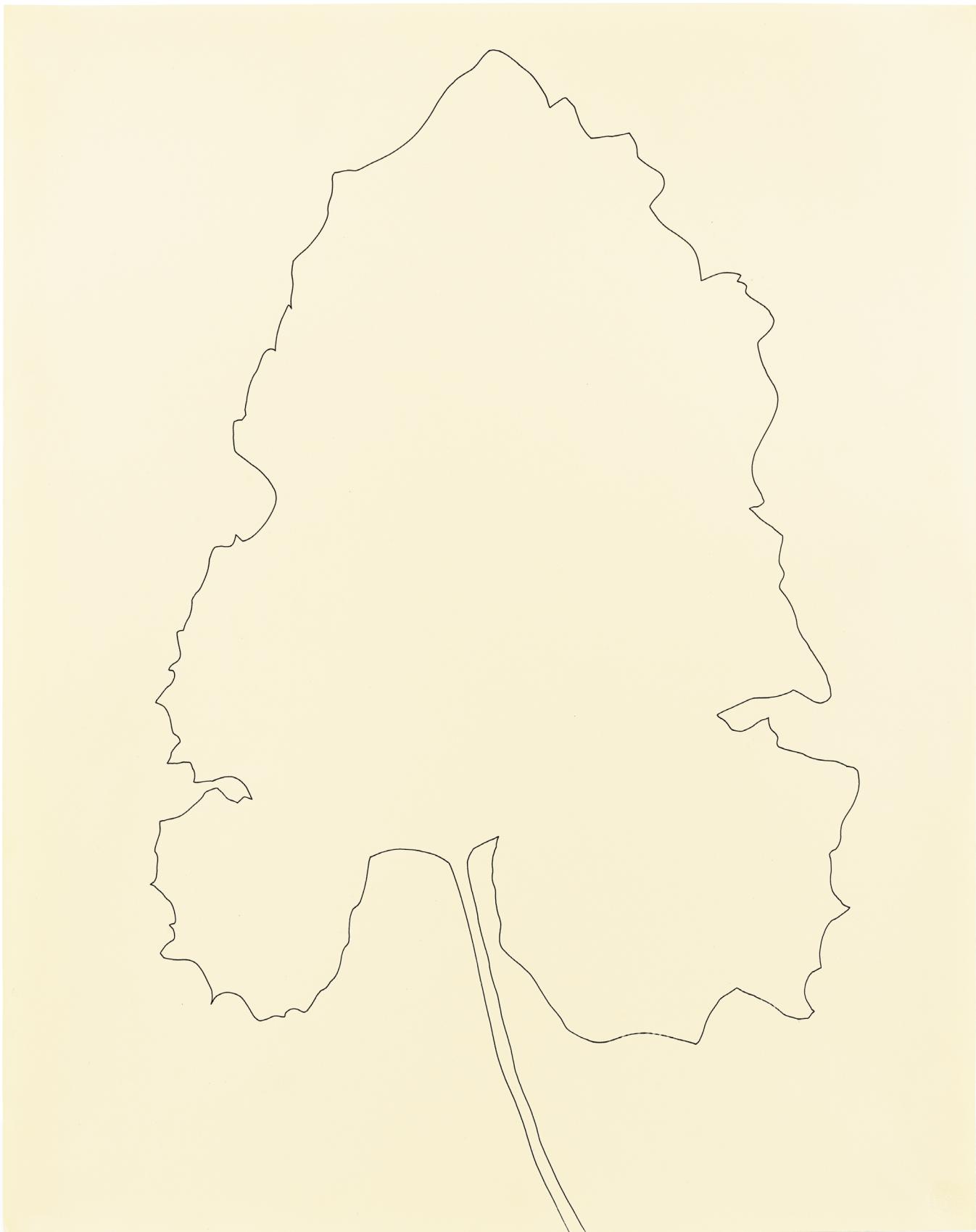




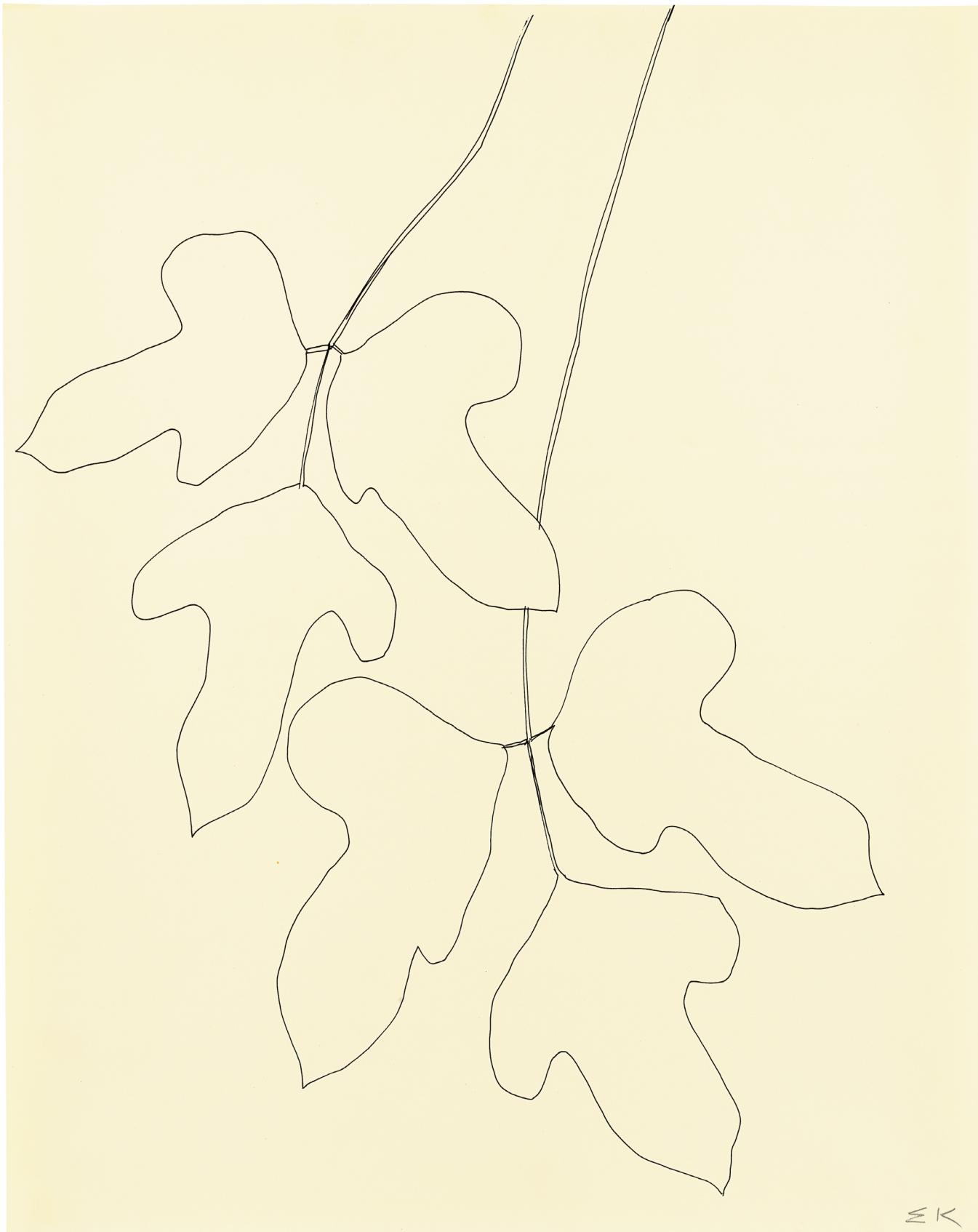


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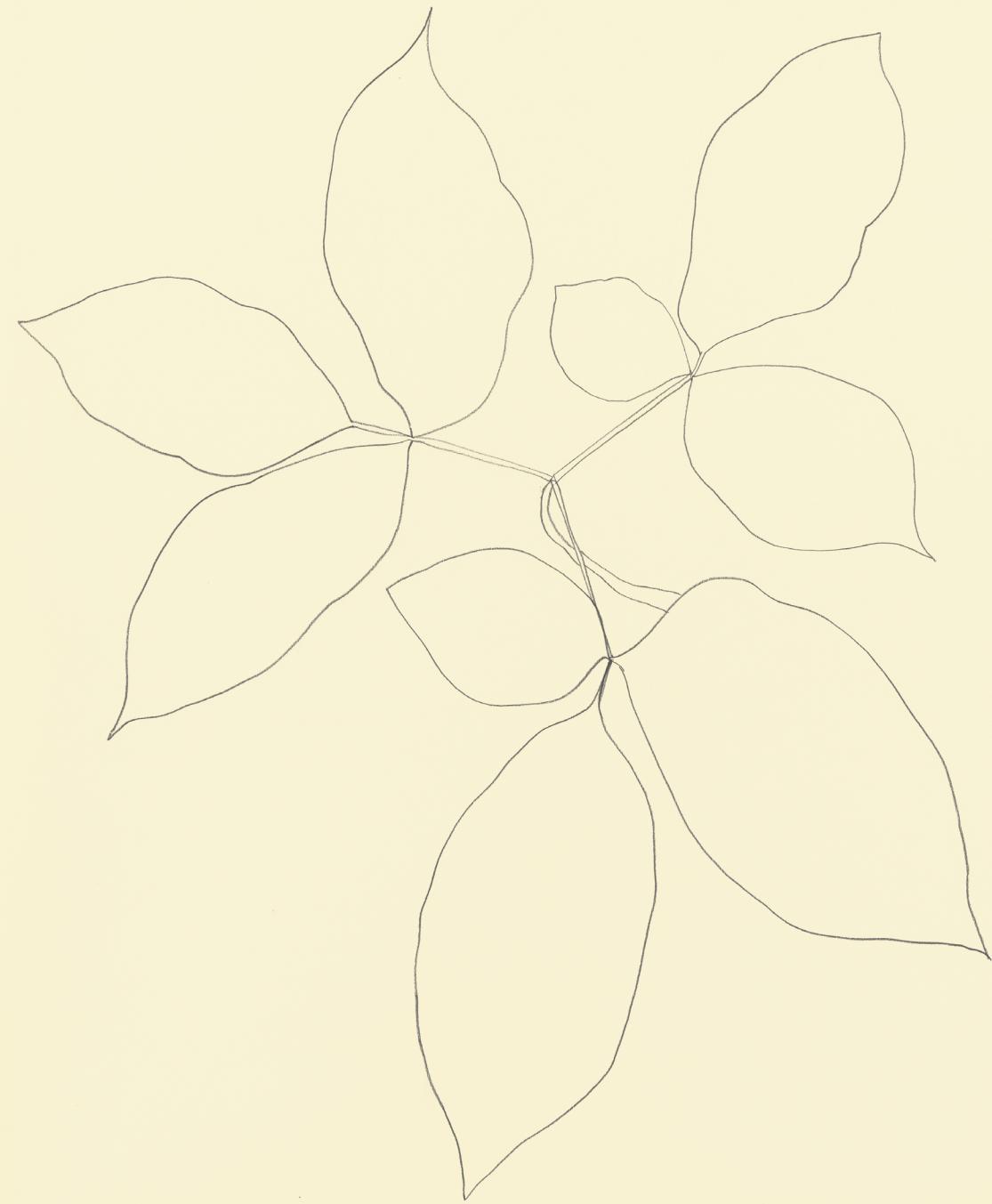


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FIG. *Keely*





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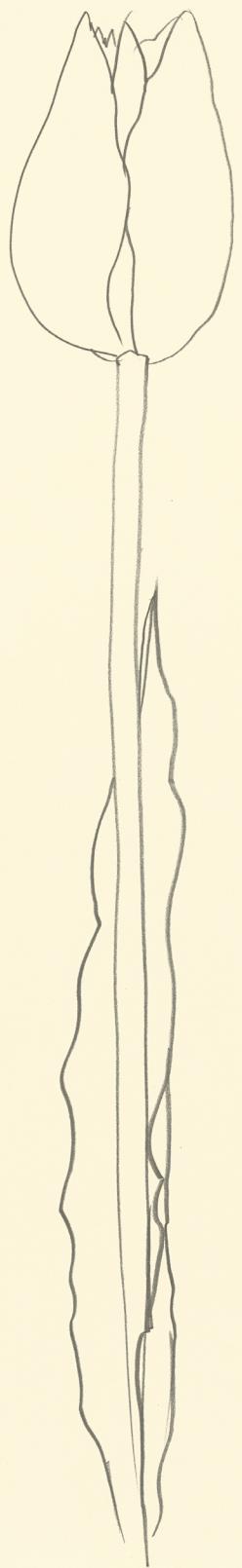
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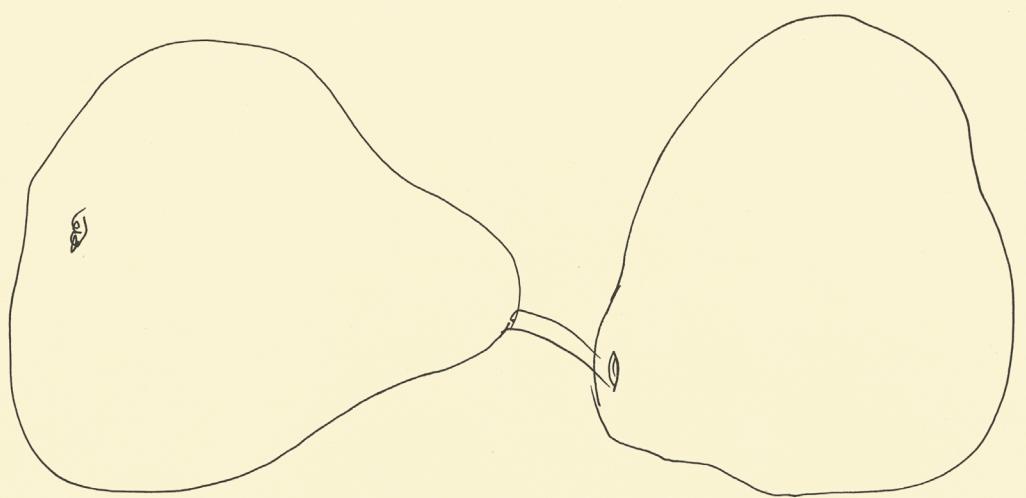
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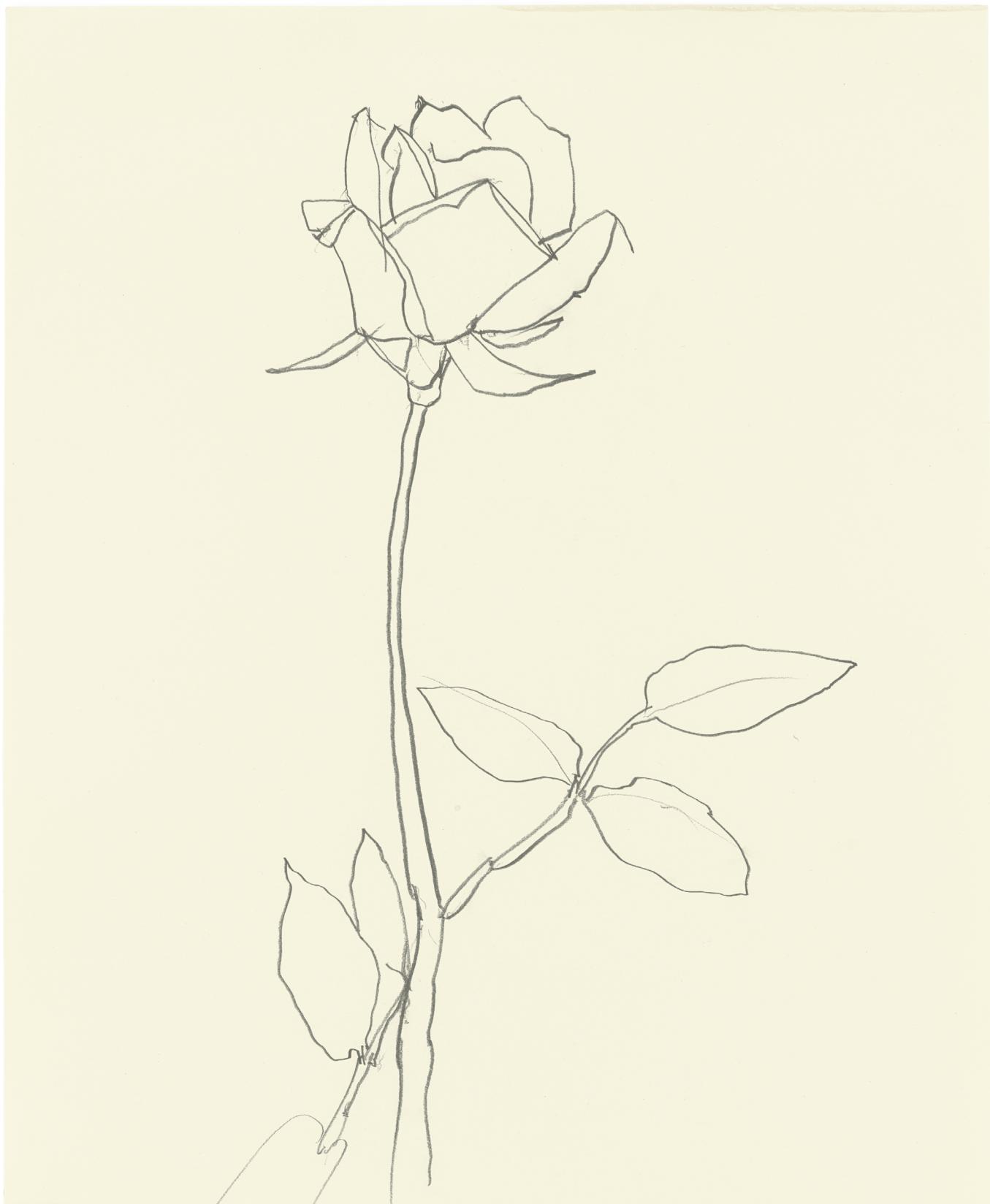
Kelly





Kelly









Ellsworth Kelly outside his studio in Spencertown, NY, 2012

1	7	13
<i>Seaweed</i> , 1949	<i>Wild Grape</i> , 1960	<i>Avocado</i> , 1967
Ink on paper	Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper
17 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches	16 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches	29 x 23 inches
44 x 31 cm	43 x 35 cm	74 x 58 cm
2	8	14
<i>Rubber Plant</i> , 1957	<i>Wild Grape</i> , 1960	<i>Orange</i> , 1967
Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper	Ink on paper
24 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches	22 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches	16 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 14 inches
63 x 52 cm	58 x 72 cm	42 x 36 cm
3	9	15
<i>Avocado</i> , 1959	<i>Artichoke</i> , 1961	<i>Leaves</i> , 1968
Oil on paper	Graphite on paper	Ink on paper
16 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 13 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches	22 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches	29 x 23 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches
42 x 35 cm	58 x 72 cm	74 x 59 cm
4	10	16
<i>Pine Cone</i> , 1959	<i>Chrysanthemum</i> , 1965	<i>Burdock</i> , 1969
Ink on paper	Graphite on paper	Ink on paper
28 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 22 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches	28 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches	29 x 23 inches
72 x 58 cm	72 x 57 cm	74 x 58 cm
5	11	17
<i>Daisy</i> , 1960	<i>Locust</i> , 1965	<i>Leaves</i> , 1969
Ink on paper	Graphite on paper	Ink on paper
10 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches	21 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches	29 x 23 inches
27 x 21 cm	54 x 36 cm	74 x 58 cm
6	12	18
<i>Wild Grape</i> , 1960	<i>Seven Oranges</i> , 1966	<i>Oak</i> , 1969
Ink on paper	Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper
16 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches	22 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches	22 x 29 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches
43 x 35 cm	58 x 72 cm	56 x 76 cm

19	25	31
<i>Begonia</i> , 1970	<i>Peony</i> , 1982	<i>Calla Lily</i> , 2007
Ink on paper	Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper
22 x 29½ inches	30¼ x 40½ inches	19½ x 24¾ inches
56 x 76 cm	77 x 102 cm	50 x 62 cm
20	26	32
<i>Branch of Leaves</i> , 1970	<i>Siberian Iris</i> , 1989	<i>Rose</i> , 2008
Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper
29 x 23 inches	30½ x 23 ½ inches	17 x 14 inches
74 x 58 cm	77 x 59 cm	43 x 36 cm
21	27	
<i>Yellow Day Lily</i> , 1970	<i>Siberian Iris</i> , 1989	
Ink on paper	Ink on paper	
29¾ x 22 inches	30½ x 22 ½ inches	
76 x 56 cm	77 x 58 cm	
22	28	
<i>Goldenrod</i> , 1980	<i>Lily</i> , 1991	
Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper	
24¼ x 32¼ inches	30¼ x 20½ inches	
62 x 82 cm	77 x 51 cm	
23	29	
<i>Lilies</i> , 1980	<i>Tulip</i> , 1992	
Graphite on paper	Graphite on paper	
30 x 22 ½ inches	30½ x 22 ½ inches	
76 x 56 cm	77 x 58 cm	
24	30	
<i>Fig</i> , 1982	<i>Two Pears</i> , 2000	
Graphite on paper	Ink on paper	
30 x 22 inches	14 x 16¼ inches	
76 x 56 cm	36 x 41 cm	

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(Amsterdam: Stedelijk Museum; London: Hayward Gallery; Paris: Musée national d’art moderne; Baaden-Baaden: Staatliche Kunsthalle, 1979), pp. 30–32

Cover

*Tulip*, 1992. Graphite on paper. 30½ x 22½ inches; 77 x 58 cm